

Human Services Council Meeting
February 26, 2015, 7:30 P.M.
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
Kevin H. Bell, Chair	<i>Present</i>	Carol Ann Hawn	<i>Present</i>
Col. Marion (Barney) Barnwell	<i>Excused</i>	Myra Herbert	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Jennifer Anne Bishop	<i>Absent</i>	William Kogler	<i>Present</i>
Steven Bloom	<i>Present</i>	Rev. LaVerne McCain Gill	<i>Absent</i>
Jeff Dannick	<i>Excused</i>	Stephanie Mensh	<i>Present</i>
Kenneth (Mark) Deal	<i>Absent</i>	Kathleen Murphy	<i>Absent</i>
Jack Dobbyn	<i>Present</i>	Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Poje	<i>Present</i>
Robert Faherty	<i>Present</i>	Adrienne Stokes	<i>Excused</i>
Rev. Dr. Jerrold Foltz	<i>Present</i>	Henry Wulf	<i>Excused</i>
Robert Gaudian	<i>Present</i>		
Staff:			
Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive			<i>Present</i>
Gail Ledford, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Michelle Gregory, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)			<i>Present</i>
Ronald McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Brenda Gardiner, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>

Guests and County Staff: Edward L. Long, Jr., Nannette Bowler, Kevin Filbey, Ina Fernandez, Bob Bermingham, Marlene Blum, Dean Klein, Robert Easley, Cynthia Bhatnager, Lee Ann Pender, Patricia Rohrer, Chris Leonard, Dana Thompson, Mary Agee, Tisha Deeghan, Rosalyn Foroobar, Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu

Welcome and Overview – Jerry Poje opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m. He reviewed the agenda and introduced County Executive Edward L. Long, Jr.

FY 2016 Advertised Budget Plan Presentation – County Executive Long presented his FY 2016 Advertised Budget Plan. The points that were highlighted included an underperforming economy and fiscal realities related to residential and commercial growth. The projected growth in revenue will be moderate over the next several years and there is an expected budget shortfall in FY 2017. Despite the challenging budget climate, Ed also spoke about investments in the system to support various areas including Human Services. He highlighted the positions added to address increasing public assistance caseloads, domestic violence services, intellectually disabled graduates, as well as school readiness and school health.

Ed discussed the Lines of Business (LOBs) process as one of the strategies to support ongoing budget challenges. This will be a process to look at the metrics and assess whether they are effective or not and whether we can improve them by transforming our processes. It is also an assessment on whether we can deal with less. We need to tell the Board of Supervisors about our programs, where we are spending resources, identify what we should do differently and determine what we should not do. Christopher Leonard, Director of Neighborhood and Community Services, is leading the process. Much of the formal assessment work will begin next year in January.

The Human Services Council discussed elements of the presentation by County Executive Long. Some of the comments included issues about affordable housing for all income levels, incentivizing creative solutions and a more aggressive SACC fee schedule. The Council also discussed the challenges of making budget recommendations with the additional constraints of mandated programs. The Council acknowledged the declining trends in local philanthropy and the compounding impact on non-profits. Human Services Council Chair Kevin Bell inquired how the Council could be most helpful. It was noted that the Board of Supervisors needs to hear where the emphasis should be, as they have difficult choices to make.

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Approval of January 12, 2015, Council Meeting Minutes – The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next HSC full membership meeting is Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at Providence Community Center.